

REMARKS:

By this Preliminary Amendment, the Specification has been amended to include reference to the parent application. Claims 1-22 have been cancelled and new claims 24-31 have been added.

An early examination and allowance of this application are solicited.

**EXPRESS MAIL LABEL
NO:
EV437667685US**

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald P. Parsons
Reg. No. 24,486

March 12, 2004
Date

PARSONS HSUE & DE RUNTZ LLP
655 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 318-1160 (main)
(415) 318-1163 (direct)
(415) 693-0194 fax